

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently amended) Backflow prevention device (1, 1'), comprising a mounting housing (2) that can be inserted into a fluid conduit (3), and having at least one sealing ring (4) that is held in an annular groove (5) provided on an outer circumference of the mounting housing (2) and that provides a seal between the mounting housing (2) and the fluid conduit (3), wherein when the backflow prevention device (1, 1') is closed and a fluid volume is sealed at a flow outlet side, the sealing ring (4) can be ~~[[moved]]~~ shifted axially in the groove against a restoring force from a sealing position into a leakage position in order to compensate pressure.

2. (Currently amended) Backflow prevention device according to Claim 1, wherein the restoring force of at least one ~~rubber-like~~ resilient elastic restoring element (10) acts on the sealing ring (4).

3. (Previously presented) Backflow prevention device according to Claim 2, wherein the at least one restoring element (10) has an annular construction.

4. (Previously presented) Backflow prevention device according to Claim 2, wherein the sealing ring (4) and the at least one restoring element (10) are connected with one another in one piece to form a sealing and restoring unit.

5. (Currently amended) Backflow prevention device according to Claim 1, wherein in the annular groove (5) an annular guide segment (9), encompassed by the sealing ring (4), is provided that tapers against an inflow direction (Pf1) of the backflow prevention device (1, 1') which does not contact the sealing ring in the sealing

position.

6. (Currently amended) Backflow prevention device according to Claim 2, wherein the restoring element (10) is supported on a radial wall (12) located at a flow inlet side of the annular groove (5) and spaced apart from the sealing ring.

7. (Previously presented) Backflow prevention device according to Claim 1, wherein the sealing ring (4) can be moved from the sealing position into the leakage position by ~~means of~~ a backflow that acts thereon.

8. (Previously presented) Backflow prevention device according to Claim 1, wherein at least one pressure compensation channel (11) is provided that connects an area of the groove situated before the leakage position in the inflow direction (Pf1) to a flow inlet side of the backflow prevention device (1, 1').

9. (Previously presented) Backflow prevention device according to Claim 8, wherein the at least one pressure compensation channel (11) is fashioned as a slit or similar opening of the radial wall (12) at the flow inlet side.

10. (New) Backflow prevention device according to claim 2, wherein the annular groove includes a downstream section in a flow direction of the backflow prevention device with a first inside diameter in which the sealing ring is located in the sealing position, and an upstream section having a second inside diameter, that is smaller than the first inside diameter, in which the elastic restoring element is located in the sealing position.

11. (New) Backflow prevention device of claim 10, further comprising an annular guide segment that tapers against an inflow direction of the backflow prevention device from the downstream section to the upstream section of the annular groove.

12. (New) Backflow prevention device according to claim 10, wherein in the leakage position, the sealing ring shifts axially from the downstream section of the annular groove at least partially into the upstream section of the annular groove.

13. (New) Backflow prevention device according to claim 12, further comprising an annular guide segment that tapers against an inflow direction of the backflow prevention device from the downstream section to the upstream section of the annular groove, and in the leakage position, the sealing ring shifts radially inwardly on the annular guide section..

14. (New) Backflow prevention device according to claim 1, wherein the sealing ring protrudes radially beyond the mounting housing to contact an inner wall of the fluid conduit in which the backflow prevention device is inserted.